

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 JANUARY 1987

ICO Summit Conference

The fifth ICO summit closed 29 January after hearing the conference resolutions, which were read out by a Kuwaiti official in a statement broadcast by Riyadh television. On the Arab-Israeli conflict, the ICO stressed the need for a settlement through an international conference with the PLO participating "on equal footing" with the other parties concerned. The statement rejected all unilateral agreements and considered that UN Resolution 242 is not a sufficient basis for a settlement. The conference called on all ICO members to commit themselves not to establish any direct or indirect relations with "the Zionist enemy," and condemned "some states" for resuming relations with Israel. While calling all Israeli settlements "illegitimate" and reaffirming that Zionism is "a form of racism," the ICO statement did not call for a jihad against Israel.

The resolution on the Iran-Iraq war was brief, stressing the need to end the conflict and expressing appreciation for the efforts of the ICO Good Offices committee in this regard. It urged member-states to work collectively to end the war. The ICO also called for a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and urged Libya and Chad to solve their differences peacefully. On terrorism, the conference rejected "tendentious" attempts to link terrorism with Islam and expressed support for an international conference to define international terrorism. In conclusion, the statement noted that the sixth Islamic summit will be held in Senegal, while ICO foreign ministers will hold their 17th conference in Jordan.

In earlier developments at the conference, Iraqi Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim warned of Iranian attempts to "terrorize and blackmail" the ICO and he urged the conferees to pressure Iran into accepting peace by adopting "practical measures" to prevent it from continuing "aggression." In his 27 January address, which was broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, the Iraqi delegation leader also expressed concern that "some parties" on the ICO Good Offices have "called for flattering the Iranian regime and for fulfilling its strange desires," and he deplored the committee's failure to differentiate between those who "sincerely" seek peace and those who want to continue the conflict. He also criticized the committee's call for an arms embargo on the belligerent parties, maintaining that this would put Iraq on an unequal footing because it would not be heeded by Iran's weapons suppliers, particularly Israel. Such acts by the committee have "hurt and confused" Iraq and have not weakened Iran's insistence on continuing the bloodshed, he added.

Speaking at the 28 January session, Saudi King Fahd welcomed Iraq's declared readiness to respond to peace efforts and expressed hope that Iran will do likewise, according to SPA. Other speakers included Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, KUNA noted.

Five Arab heads of state held talks on the fringe of the conference 28 January, Damascus radio reported, noting that the meeting was attended by the Syrian and Algerian presidents, the Saudi and Jordanian kings, and the Kuwaiti amir. The discussion focused on the regional situation, Arab issues, and topics on the ICO summit agenda. The radio also confirmed that the Syrian and Lebanese presidents met earlier for talks on the Lebanese situation.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses reported further raids on Iranian towns 28 January, including Qom, Esfahan, Eslamabad-e Gharb, and Ilam. Iran responded with "heavy" antiaircraft fire in Esfahan, where "several" civilian casualties resulted from the air raids, IRNA noted. The communiques also reported that Iraqi fighter planes struck at a "large maritime target near the Iranian coast" 28 January and bombed Bandar-e Mah Shahr port on the northeastern side of the Gulf early on 29 January. An Iraqi pilot was captured by Iranian forces after they shot down his plane 29 January, IRNA reported. An Iraqi military spokesman earlier denied Iranian reports that four Iraqi warplanes were downed 28 January, INA reported. Iran now claims to have downed a total of 69 Iraqi warplanes since the start of Karbala' 5 operations 9 January, according to IRNA.

At the southern battlefield, Iraqi forces inflicted "thousands" of Iranian casualties in a 28 January counteroffensive, according to an Iraqi communique. An Iranian statement cited by IRNA claimed that Iranian forces killed or wounded 2,000 Iraqi troops after a fresh "thrust" in the area 28 January.

Iran

Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani discussed the U.S.-Iran arms affair in a CBS television interview reported by Tehran radio, stating that Iran paid \$30 million for the spare parts it received. He said the United States was never in direct contact with Iran but added that contacts through middlemen have not been severed and Iran is "still receiving parts." Commenting on Robert McFarlane's mission to Iran, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the Iranians had concluded that the Americans "were not acting in good faith," adding that the latter "only brought a quarter of the spare parts they should have brought." U.S. officials subsequently made false allegations about Soviet plans to attack Iran, he asserted. The Majlis speaker also showed the U.S. correspondent a photocopy of McFarlane's forged Irish passport, noting that Iran can produce copies of the passports used by other members of the McFarlane mission. Asked about the Ayatollah Khomeyni's health, he said the imam is "very well," though he "may look tired" because of excessive work and study.

The Majlis speaker also discussed the U.S.-Iran affair with other journalists, IRNA reported, telling them that the arms received from the United States did not play an important role in the war. He showed the journalists a copy of the Bible allegedly sent by President Reagan, opining that Reagan was "serious and honest in his decision to resume ties with Iran" but that the President showed "weakness" on this issue, which was taken advantage of by his opponents.

Lebanon

PLO Withdrawal From Maghdushah — In a "positive development," Palestinians have begun withdrawing from Maghdushah, Beirut radio reported 29 January. Forces of the Nasirite Popular Organization have taken up the vacated Palestinian positions. Commenting on the Palestinian withdrawal, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said he would be willing to implement the Iranian plan for settling the camps war if the positions evacuated by the Palestinians are turned over to Amal and "not to any other party," the radio reported.

Hostage Negotiations — "Assurances" that Anglican special envoy Terry Waite is safe and that the hostage issue is being "remedied quietly" were given to the Church of England by leaders of the Druze community in Lebanon, AFP reported.

Waite, who is said to be negotiating with the Islamic Jihad for the release of two kidnapped Americans, will end his meetings "very shortly," according to an "informed source" cited by AFP. Should Waite's freedom ever be threatened, Iran would do "all within its power" to secure his release, Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in his press conference carried by IRNA. Meanwhile, the "Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine" claimed responsibility for kidnapping four teachers at Beirut University College, AFP reported.

IDF Denial — The IDF "strongly protested" charges by Irish UNIFIL forces that an Israeli tank fired at their barracks 28 January, Jerusalem television reported. A UNIFIL spokesman said there is "no certainty" regarding the individual or organization responsible for the explosion.

Libya-Chad Conflict

Libya staged an "intensive" attack on the Chadian town of Fada 28 January, Ndjamena radio reported. An Ndjamena radio commentary described the recent lull in northern fighting as a "deceitful" Libyan strategy to strengthen its occupying forces. The number of Libyan troops stationed at Ouadi Doum, Gouro, and Faya Largeau has increased from 8,000 to 13,000, the radio said.

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Wakil on Iran, Pakistan Blocking Afghans' Return
LD191817 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
 1600 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Message from Comrade Abdol Wakil, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and DRA foreign minister, addressed to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar; date not specified]

[Text] Your Excellency, according to information, the program of national reconciliation for the cessation of bloodshed and the maintenance of national peace in the DRA has met with a warm welcome by the great majority of Afghans residing outside the country, in particular those residing in Pakistan and Iran who support it completely. During the past few days a large number of Afghan citizens have gone to the embassies and consulates of the DRA in Pakistan and Iran, and have requested the assistance of these representatives.

In accordance with the instructions of the DRA Government, on 15 January 1987 the Foreign Ministry summoned the charge d' affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul, and on 12 January 1987 summoned the charge d' affaires of the Embassy of Iran, informing them of the fact that the DRA Government wishes to start charter flights to cities in the two countries in order to dispatch those Afghans wishing to return home. The DRA requested the Governments of Pakistan and Iran to allow such flights.

Meanwhile, the DRA Embassies in Islamabad and Tehran were instructed to inform the governments of these countries of this matter. However, no reply has yet been received from the Pakistani and Iranian authorities.

The DRA believes that the creation of obstacles in the way of the voluntary return of Afghans by the Pakistani and Iranian authorities is an act in complete contradiction with internationally accepted norms and the voluntary return of refugees to their country. Also, such preventive activities and approaches contradict the spirit of national reconciliation and the announced cease-fire by the DRA, as well as the desire of the DRA for the establishment of normal relations and goodneighborliness with Pakistan and Iran.

On the other hand, the policy being pursued by the Pakistani and Iranian authorities in this regard is not in accord with the spirit of the voluntary and free return of Afghan refugees to their country.

Therefore, the DRA Government strongly protests such unfriendly actions by the Pakistani and Iranian authorities and their efforts toward preventing the voluntary return of Afghans residing in these countries to their own country and demand an

end to such treatment, and the elimination of obstacles in the way of Afghans returning to their homeland.

Thus, we once again draw your attention to the fact that you have been consistently seeking a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan; that you are rendering consistent efforts in this regard to contact Pakistani and Iranian authorities to provide possibilities for the return of Afghans residing in those countries. You have also attracted the attention of world public opinion and the opinion of international establishments and organizations in this connection to exert pressure and influence on these countries so that the Pakistani and Iranian authorities facilitate the allowing of flights for transporting Afghans residing in those countries, and do not prevent their return to their homeland by whatever way and by whatever means.

Renewing my great respects.

Signed: DRA Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil

IRNA Reports on Operations by Mujahidin
LD290905 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 29, IRNA — Afghan Muslim revolutionaries stormed a column of joint state-Soviet reinforcement forces in Khowst Governorate, killing and injuring 400 of the joint forces and destroying 45 tanks and armoured personnel carriers belonging to them, late last week.

Following victorious operations of Afghan Muslim mujahidin in Sinaki region, Paktia Province, earlier last week in which mujahidin captured three military posts of the joint forces, the occupier troops sent reinforcements to the area.

During the assault, 250 state forces including 30 officers and NCO's surrendered to the Muslim mujahidin who also seized a large amount of light and heavy weaponry belonging to the joint forces.

In this operation, 24 Muslim mujahidin were martyred and 89 others injured.

Karachi Reports Downed MiG
BK261340 Karachi Domestic Service in English
 1300 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have shot down a Soviet-Kabul MiG aircraft in Jhawar area. The pilot and other (?3-member) crew were killed. Another report says the mujahidin have recaptured a strategic road in the south of Khowst after fierce fighting with Soviet-Kabul troops.

Further on Visit by Peru's President Garcia

Africa Fund Summit Address Cited
PY261737 Lima Channel 9 Television in Spanish
 0330 GMT 25 Jan 87

[No video available]

[Text] On his second day in India, Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez said that the Africa Fund is a specific answer to racial discrimination. He also expressed his firm support for those countries affected by apartheid, which he described as a crime against humanity, and he reasserted his commitment with front-line countries.

Ladies and gentlemen, the opening ceremony of the Africa Fund has just started. The following is a close-up of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who is the president of this meeting; to his right you can see Vice President of the 8th Nonaligned Summit Robert Mugabe; you can also see Algerian President Bendjedid; and next to him is President Alan Garcia who along with other dignitaries make up the board of the Africa Fund. Also present are: the legendary Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, Sassou-Nguesso from Congo, and Raul Alconada, from Argentina.

President Alan Garcia said today that a true revolution is not just synonymous with achieving material well-being and industrial development but also with promoting a new standard of values among our nations.

Garcia said this in his speech he delivered at the opening ceremony of the African Fund. Also in attendance were Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and several African leaders and chiefs of state.

[Begin Garcia recording] We hail the establishment of this fund which struggles against racial discrimination, supports those who are subjugated under this infamous crime against humanity, and which reasserts our commitment with the Frontline States.

We hail the establishment of this fund, because it is specific evidence of what can be achieved by the solidarity of nonaligned countries and because it is specific evidence that through its united action, the nonaligned group can achieve a place in history.

I would like to briefly refer to something we in Latin America believe is very important, and which is reasserted by our presence in this meeting: The struggle against apartheid and the decolonization of Namibia is a moral issue. Moreover, at a time when we are experiencing a crisis of an existential nature, and at a time when the international system is losing its values, we believe that this banner of solidarity is morally uplifting and ethically reassuring because it will help our nations achieve a new sense of being. This cannot be achieved by material goods, consumption, or its unavoidable industrial development, but through the reconstruction of spiritual values — which can only be achieved by working and struggling for others.

It is we who must thank Namibia, thank those who are subjected to racial discrimination under apartheid, and the Frontline States which grant us the opportunity to take a [word indistinct] and moral step which will allow our countries to grow ethically, to undertake a true revolution that is not based merely on the accumulation of material goods or the achievement of false well-being based on economic prosperity.

Without examples like the cause of the African countries everything would be false in our democracy and our socialism would only be a path to achieve a materialistic well-being that would ultimately lead us to a loss of spiritual values.

Apartheid, discrimination, and colonization are only the most grotesque expressions of an exhausted international system. The international economic system has reached the limits of its capacity to accumulate and obtain surplus. Political colonization, the control over prime resources, and industrialization are imposed on our nations so as to promote consumption. Their materialization is now limited by the exhaustion of a profit-oriented policy and the serious problem brought on by the foreign debt which is burdening the poor nations of the world.

When we see that the technology of wealthy countries is rejecting our production, which forms the economy of our poor countries; when we see that international trade is concentrated among the wealthy countries and that they are waging trade wars to place their products at the expense of poor nations; when we see that the vicious circle of the foreign debt problem has reached its limits; and when we see that imperialism is only based on a profit-making financial system which uses money to yield interest rates, but that does not yield material goods in our countries; when we see all this, we understand that the imperialist economic system has exhausted itself. [end recording]

At the end of this ceremony, Alan Garcia attended a luncheon hosted by his Indian colleague, Zail Singh, in honor of the presidents and chiefs of state present in India to attend the 37th anniversary of Indian independence and the Africa Fund summit.

Garcia also attended a private meeting of the chiefs of state who are members of the Africa Fund. Tomorrow he is scheduled to attend the closing ceremony of the Africa Fund.

Garcia Departs 29 Jan
BK290359 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] The Peruvian president, Dr Alan Garcia Perez, left Bombay for home this morning. He was seen off at the airport, among others, by the Maharashtra minister for protocol.

Africa Fund Communiqué Cited; Nigeria's Pledge
AE271302 Lagos Domestic Service in English
 1200 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The heads of state and government of the Nonaligned Africa Fund Committee have appealed to the international

financial and other organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the fund to show solidarity with the struggle against apartheid. In a communique in New Delhi after 2 days of deliberations, the committee called for urgent, concerted, and resolute action for the complete dismantling of apartheid. [passage omitted] The chief of general staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, represented Nigeria at the conference where the country pledged about 50 million naira to the fund.

Investment Center Set Up With Soviet Union
BK271654 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
 1330 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] An Indo-Soviet investment center has been set up to boost trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. Opening the center in New Delhi today, the industry minister, Mr Vengal Rao, said technology transfer will be extended to many more areas in the coming years. At present, a thousand [as heard] collaboration proposals are being cleared annually. This is part of the government's commitment to modernize industry in both private and public sectors.

Kashmir Leader on Congress-I Pact, Pakistan
BK281612 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has defended his party's accord with the Congress-I. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi, he said the electoral alliance will avoid voting along communal lines and will usher in a new era of permanent harmony between various communities. The chief minister said that the elections will be held in March. The dates will be decided by the election commission. The chief minister said an understanding with the center is most necessary to remove the state's poverty and backwardness.

Replying to a question on developments on the India-Pakistan border, Dr Abdullah said that Pakistan had increased its activities along the state's border. This was a matter of grave concern. He warned that a befitting reply would be given if there is any military adventure against India.

Gurkha National Front Begins Talks on Demands
BK281620 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] A 14-member delegation of the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] led by Mr Subash Ghisingh met the Union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, in New Delhi and discussed the issue of citizenship of Nepali speaking people. The minister of state for home, Mr Chintamani Panigrahi, and the Union home secretary, Mr C.G. Sommaiya, were also present. Mr Ghisingh said that the GNLF had some doubts about citizenship in the light of Clause 7 of India-Nepalese friendship treaty. The home secretary explained to Mr Ghisingh the constitutional provisions regarding citizenship and the provisions of the Citizenship Act. It was agreed that the issues and problems should be resolved in

a peaceful and democratic manner through discussions.

The talks will continue.

Akali Dal Warns SGPC Over 'Authority' in Punjab
BK281618 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] In Punjab, the Akali Dal working committee has warned the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee [SGPC, Sikh Temples Management Committee] and its office bearers to either assert their authority and function according to the provisions of the SGPC Act or quit office. In a resolution adopted in Chandigarh today, the working committee has expressed its deep concern over the failure of the SGPC to resist the desecration of the Golden Temple complex by the antinational and secessionist elements.

The meeting was presided over by the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala. In another resolution, the working committee also condemned the manner in which the jathedars [religious leaders] of Kesgarh Sahib and the Takht Damdama Sahib [Sikh Shrines] were removed, violating the Sikh traditions.

The working committee has expressed deep anguish at the continued nonimplementation of the Punjab accord. It urged the prime minister to take bold political initiative by release the Jodhpur detainees [Sikh political activists] and settle the Punjab problem.

1 Killed in Congress-I West Bengal Demonstration
BK290352 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] In West Bengal, Congress-I workers yesterday courted arrest, violating prohibitory orders at different district headquarters. The statewide demonstration was in support of the Congress-I 9-point demands which include action on the deteriorating law and order situation in the state. At Purulia, three persons were injured in police firing yesterday. However, a PTI report said that one person was killed in the incident. At Berhampur in Murshidabad, several persons including the secretary of state Congress-I, Mr Sudip Pandupadhyaya, were injured when police resorted to lathi [baton] charge. A number of Congress-I MP's [members of parliament] from West Bengal, several MLA's [members of legislative assembly], and state Congress-I leaders were among those arrested in different districts.

Tribal Refugee Influx from Bangladesh Continues
BK221608 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] In south Tripura, tribal refugees, mostly Chakmas, [from Bangladesh] continue to arrive at different camps. UNI, quoting official sources in Agartala, says so far nearly 36,000 Chakma refugees have arrived since April last year. The rate of influx increased substantially last week when more than 4,000 refugees entered Tripura.

Ziaul Haq Comments on Afghanistan Problem

*BK250833 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 25 Jan 87*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said he hoped that with the assistance of the international communities and our friends, particularly China, the Afghanistan problem will be amicably solved. He was talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport today before leaving for Kuwait to lead the Pakistan's delegation at the fifth Islamic summit meeting beginning there tomorrow.

He said he has always been saying that the key to this problem lies in Moscow and this key is now near the lock. He welcomed the new initiative taken by the Soviet Government and hoped that this will help make advance toward the solution of the problem.

Junejo, Gandhi Express 'Hope' in Border Talks

*BK271311 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 27 Jan 87*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, and his Indian counterpart, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, have expressed their full commitment to the preservation of peace and promotion of good-neighborly relations between the two countries. The exchange of their reassurance took place in a telephonic conversation between the two leaders. The two leaders are also said to have expressed their hope that the talks due to be held at the level of foreign secretaries would achieve the objective of deescalation of tension and promotion of bilateral relations between the two countries.

Envoy to Arrive in Delhi 30 Jan

*BK280235 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 28 Jan 87*

[Text] Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar will arrive in New Delhi on Friday [30 January]. Radio Pakistan's correspondent has learned that he will negotiate with A.S. Gonsalves in the Indian External Affairs Ministry on de-escalating tension created by Indian troops concentration along Pakistani border.

Spokesman on Indian Border Talks

*BK281605 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 28 Jan 87*

[Text] Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar is to leave Islamabad on Friday [30 January] for New Delhi, along with a 5-member

delegation, where he will hold talks on de-escalating the tension arising out of the concentration of Indian troops along the Pakistani borders. These talks will begin the same day. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon that the Pakistani delegation is going to the Indian capital with an open mind so as to give practical shape to the determination to remove tension between the two neighboring countries. He stressed that Pakistan wants concrete steps taken in this regard so that no such situation will arise in the future. The two countries should jointly review the issue. Pakistan will not only adopt a positive attitude in this regard but will make every possible effort to end the tension immediately.

In reply to a question, the spokesman said that Pakistani forces are not concentrated at any place on the border. The Pakistani forces are carrying out exercises at regular sites and these exercises are expected to be completed within 4 to 5 weeks. After the completion of these exercises, all troops will return to peace zones.

National Assembly Ends Border Debate

*BK291120 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 29 Jan 87*

[Text] The National Assembly today completed its discussion on the situation arising out of the massing of Indian troops on Pakistan's borders. Winding up the debate, the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, said Pakistan wants friendship with India on terms of equality and honor, and that no country should interfere in the internal affairs of others. He asked the Indian leadership to come out with similar assurances to Pakistan and reciprocate Pakistan's desire for peace.

Mr Zain Noorani said if even an inch of our territory is attacked or even a drop of Pakistani blood is shed, Pakistan will not hesitate to retaliate. The minister for state suggested there should be mutual talks or negotiations for de-escalation at any level.

Earlier, several members took part in the deliberations. They said India had never replied positively to Pakistan's efforts to remove misunderstanding between them. They suggested exchange of parliamentary delegations between the two countries. The House will now meet on Sunday evening.

uf headlineMajlis Speaker Questioned on Hostages, Issues
LD281221 Tehran IRNA in English 1131 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 28, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that the U.S. and France should not expect Iran to cooperate in resolving the issue of Western hostages in Lebanon.

In response to a question from *The New York Times* reporter on the role the Islamic Republic of Iran could play in securing the release of the Western hostages in Lebanon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that moves made to date by Iran on the issue were done at the request of the U.S. and France. Iran, he added, has tried to influence those holding the hostages and convince them [to] release the hostages. However, U.S. and France should not expect Iran to cooperate with them, while they are hostile towards the Islamic Republic.

More on the same subject, he added, if the U.S. really means us well it should return Iranian properties and France should unblock Iranian money and also stop supporting Iranian counter-revolutionaries and the Iraqi regime.

"We have announced," he added, "if you assure us of your neutrality we will do whatever we can in this respect. We ourselves would like to see your hostages released."

As for a question raised by the reporter of the Norwegian TV on when and where the last contact of U.S. officials with the Iranian Government took place and who were the parties involved in the negotiations, he said that even after the clandestine visit to Tehran of Robert McFarlane became public, the Americans contacted the Iranians in charge of arms procurement who were under the supervision of Iran's intelligence officials.

According to Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani the last contact took place a month ago in Frankfurt, West Germany. The U.S. State Department had assigned a person named 'Dunbar' to propose a plan to Iran, he said. However, he added, we had instructed our people not to accept it because we no longer trusted them. He said that as long as our properties are not released, we will not negotiate with the U.S. Government. "Our efforts to secure the release of the hostages, will depend on the U.S. convincing us of its good will."

In reply to a question by *The Washington Post* reporter on whether Iran plans future meetings and negotiations with [the] U.S., he said that Iran will purchase spare parts for U.S.-made arms anywhere it finds them. He stressed that Iran will buy arms wherever it can get them even from the U.S. Government, granted there are no strings attached.

Another issue, he said, is that of Iran's negotiations with Americans at The Hague within the Algiers accord, which he said, is by no means connected to political issues and the hostages. However, the U.S. Administration has recently tried to link the two issues, he added. Rafsanjani stressed that the world court talks were solely within the framework of the Algiers accord.

In response to a question by *The Wall Street Journal* that why the Islamic Republic of Iran believes regional regimes are not

Muslims, the hojjat ol-eslam said that Iran has not made such statements. "We have not said that they are not Muslims." But they have not fully acted according to Islamic principles either. He pointed out that in the first place the Islamic Republic of Iran implements Islamic codes in Iran. Outside Iran too, he said, we are trying to clarify our stances without intending to interfere in the affairs of other countries. Iran wants these countries to allow their nations greater freedom in their Islamic beliefs.

London's I.T.V. asked if Hoj. Rafsanjani had any information about Terry Waite, special envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury who has disappeared in Lebanon, and whether Iran would launch any effort to find him.

The Majlis speaker said in response that he knew nothing about the issue but expressed regret over the incident "if it is true." He said the Islamic Republic would do all within its power to secure Waite's freedom because, he said, he had at least apparently launched a humanitarian effort to secure the release of the hostages in Lebanon.

The London-based *Al-Alam* magazine related statements by Iranian officials that they wanted to settle accounts with the Baghdad regime around Basra, and asked whether this meant a war of attrition.

Hoj. Rafsanjani said the war of attrition is favored by the oppressive powers not Iran. "Our goal is to destroy the war machine of the Ba'thist regime in order to pave the way for the liberation of Iraq." He added that if the enemy's war machine is crippled, then the people inside Iraq, with the help of Iran, would rise up to topple the Baghdad regime.

Another point behind the ongoing operations in the western and southern fronts, he said, is that countries such as the Soviet Union, France, the U.S., and the regional reactionaries including Kuwait, Egypt, and Jordan would stop aiding Iraq and become disappointed with the Ba'thist regime.

An 'inquiry' reporter asked if the idea that the just concluded trips of two Iranian envoys, Mohammad Javad Larijani and 'Ali Reza Mo'ayyeri, to Saudi Arabia and Turkey aimed at preparing the region for Saddam's downfall was true, to which the Majlis speaker replied "It is not very far from reality, but we will disclose details in this regard later."

A Swedish television reporter asked where Iran gets its modern arms, and whether the U.S. is supplying them, and to what extent have they improved Iran's military strength.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council said in response that everyone knows that our arms are mostly American and that during the war time also we did not try to change our air defence system. Therefore, our major task during the war time has been to manufacture spare parts to preserve our U.S. made weapons. Those which we could not build ourselves we purchased from brokers. Of course we have some British and Soviet made arms as well but they are not very important.

The speaker said the arms Iran has received from the U.S. recently were not important and that as the Americans them-

selves had said amounted to dlr. 30 million. Therefore, with only this amount of weaponry it would be impossible to counter the Iraqi Air Force.

The imam's SDC representative stressed however that the arms Iran received from the U.S. did not play an important role in the war. "What is important here is the determination of Iran's Islamic combatants," he said.

On the arrest of a Canadian national in Iran, Hoj. Rafsanjani told a Canadian television reporter that he had also heard about his arrest on espionage charges. He said investigations were underway about him after which necessary information would be given to the Canadian Government. He added that if the arrested Canadian was not guilty he would be released otherwise the Canadian Government would have to observe international regulations.

The Majlis speaker denied rumours spread by the Zionists that Iran was making nuclear arms. He told a *Jeune Afrique* reporter about the issue that an arms broker had tried to sell raw materials for the manufacture of nuclear bombs to Iran but that Iran did not purchase them. He said the Islamic Republic does not have the capacity to manufacture nuclear bombs. "Principally we are against the manufacture and stockpiling of nuclear bombs," he said.

On U.S. threats against Iran, he said it was improbable that the U.S. would carry them out. He said he doubted whether the U.S. would ever act against Iran since the American officials were living in glass palaces and also because U.S. interests in the world could easily become targets of attack.

Hoj. Rafsanjani further stated that Iran is under pressure from the American nation and political parties. Under conditions that the U.S. President is not in a suitable position due to indolence, therefore Reagan, in an attempt to escape these pressures, would resort to some mischievous acts in Lebanon, Syria, or elsewhere. "But in any case we are prepared to counter any threat," he emphasized.

A reporter of the Hungarian television asked if Hoj. Rafsanjani believed Reagan himself had sent Iranian statesmen letters, a Bible, or pistols and whether Iran had received any arms from Israel.

The Majlis speaker said in response that he had not received any personal letter from Reagan. He said McFarlane had claimed in Tehran that he was carrying messages for the speaker, the president, and the prime minister, adding that we have not received any of these letters and pistols. Regarding the Bible too, I must say somebody else had brought it to us.

When Hoj. Rafsanjani showed the reporters the copy of the Bible Reagan had sent, the session was briefly interrupted with photographers crowding to take pictures.

On the issue of Israeli arms to Iran, he said that Iran had realised that one of the planes carrying arms to Iran had returned to Israel following which Iran announced to American officials that it considered this act contrary to the U.S. Government's good-will.

He added that after the incident Iran had returned the arms and did not accept them.

Tehran Times asked the speaker what was his feeling about the Bible and the sentence Reagan had written on it, to which Rafsanjani said Reagan had not sent the Bible for him but for the Islamic Republic.

The imam's SDC representative added that the same department which followed the matter is in possession of other documents in this connection. He said we did not have a bad feeling because Reagan is a Christian and believes in the Bible and he also knows that as Muslims we also believe in Jesus Christ (AS) and the Bible. They (the Americans) wanted the Bible to be a common point between them and us. The speaker said however that he had not personally seen the person who had brought the Bible to give him a reply. But the fact is that we could not trust the Americans because they did not fulfill their promises.

In the opinion of Hoj. Rafsanjani, the U.S. President was serious and honest in his decision to resume ties with Iran. He said Reagan has realised that it is in the interest of the U.S. not to have severed ties with the Islamic Republic. But, Reagan's opponents, due to past propaganda against Iran inside America, took advantage of the issue and defeated him and Reagan showed weakness.

The Majlis speaker said it was clear that Reagan will not be re-elected due to his old age but that he should have been so brave to announce America's interests more explicitly. Another point is that Mr. Reagan explicitly announced that over the past year he had not seen any documents on Iran's support for terrorism. This is a fact Reagan bravely admitted, he said, adding that but on the whole the American Administration is rotten from within and it is not capable of taking sound decisions.

In reply to the question of Japan's NHK reporter on the reason why Iran had not earlier discussed any documented evidence of U.S. advances to Iran and whether the disclosure of the McFarlane issue meant Iran did not welcome resumption of relations with Washington, Hoj. Rafsanjani said that if documented evidence should be taken to mean anything of the category of Mr McFarlane's gift of a bible to the Iranians, then Iran has a lot in terms of such documents. He said nine other persons had accompanied McFarlane in his clandestine visit to Iran, and that Iranian officials had photo-stat copies of their passports but Iran does not intend to reveal the identities of those people.

Elsewhere, in reply to a question by Italy's daily *Corriere Della Sera*, on whether the Islamic government had closed down the Italian cultural center in Tehran because Italy had refused to sell arms to Iran, the hojjat ol-islam said that since the triumph of the Islamic Revolution the Italian Government had not sold any form of weapons to Iran, and that it had even refused to deliver a fleet of eleven helicopters bought before the Islamic Revolution claiming that the Americans do not approve of their delivery to Iran, which Rafsanjani said indicates the secret influence of the Americans in Italy. He said the closure of the Italian cultural center in Tehran was Iran's response to an Italian TV show which mocked "the sanctities" of the Iranian people. He said neverthe-

less, that the issue had long since ended and that Iran and Italy can now develop close relations.

In response to a reporter for the Belgian television on whether Iran and Iraq are engaging in needless bloodshed in the name of war, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said Iranians are only fighting back in self-defense because the Iraqi Government has invaded and or bombed and shelled as many as 1,200 villages and tens of towns and cities in Iran. He said Iranians are fighting in order that justice may prevail and added that fighting with tyrants and struggling against tyranny is a noble act which nobody would dispute.

When the *Financial Times* reporter asked the Majlis speaker whether the Islamic government would cease fighting after Saddam Husayn is removed, Rafsanjani said that if the removal from office of Saddam Husayn meant also an end to the ruling Ba'th Party in Iraq then a development like that would certainly pave the way for an end to the war.

In response to a question by the Italian daily *Repubblica* on whether the Italian Government had forwarded two shiploads of arms to Iran, Mr Rafsanjani said that the Italian Government had not sent a single weapon to Iran since the Islamic Revolution but that instead it had sold and delivered a considerable volume of weapons to Iraq.

In response to a question by the Persian daily *Jumhuriyeh Eslami* in connection with Washington's adamant backing of the OIC meet in Kuwait, Rafsanjani said that Washington has "many friends" among members of the Organization of Islamic Conference and that the United States had secretly backed Kuwait as the venue of the OIC meet mainly because Iran had disapproved of Kuwait as the venue. He said Saddam Husayn did not go to the OIC meet in Kuwait because of the mere thought of his being a locality within the reach of our missiles panics him greatly, noting also that obviously Iran in the interest of other countries "would never venture to do so (bomb the venue of the OIC summit in Kuwait)". [sentence as received]

In response to the question of a German reporter on whether the Islamic government would mediate between the German Government and the captors of two Germans kidnapped in Lebanon, the Majlis speaker said the Islamic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany have good relations and that the Islamic government would do anything to secure the release of the two Germans. He noted, however, that foreign governments would do well to put themselves in the place of the Lebanese people who have been suffering as a result of foreign intervention in the internal affairs of their country. Rafsanjani said the German Government supports the Zionist regime while the latter continues to blast residential houses of civilians in Lebanon.

Rafsanjani told the German reporter that in order that mankind should have peace and tranquility the world over, the powermongers should stop their tyranny of the masses here and there in the world. He said by labelling freedom fighters as "terrorists" the Westerners have hardly gained anything and that distortion of objective facts in their news media has hardly helped solve any of their problems.

During the press conference and when asked whether or not the Islamic government intended to release documented evidence of Washington's advances to Iran, Rafsanjani said that if Reagan's gifted Bible to the Iranians with his own inscription on it is to be considered documented evidence, then there are a lot more of the same nature with the Iranians.

Rafsanjani then ordered distribution of photo-stat copies of Ronald Reagan's inscription on the inside page of a copy of 'the open Bible'. The inscription read: "And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the gentiles by faith, preached the Gospel beforehand to Abraham saying, 'all the nations shall be blessed in you'."

FRG Foreign Ministry Advisor Visits Tehran

Views Relations With Ahani

LD271959 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 27, IRNA — Visiting Federal Republic of Germany's Foreign Ministry Advisor Reinhardt Schlagintweit emphasized Tuesday the necessity of identifying the aggressor in the imposed-war in order to end the conflict.

The German official made the statement in his meeting with Foreign Ministry Director-General for Europe and America 'Ali Ahani. Schlagintweit also called on formation of Tehran-Bonn joint commission and expansion of relations between the two countries.

During the meeting Schlagintweit renewed an invitation to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to visit West Germany. In response, Ahani said that a revision in Bonn's policy vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic of Iran at international forums would boost Iran-West German ties.

Thanking West Germany for treating Iranian chemical victims in that country's hospitals, he said "now that the German Government has witnessed the Iraqi crimes, a clear-cut stance of that country on this grave issue can help reduce the frequent violations of international regulations by the Iraqi regime in the interest of human-beings. [no end quotes as received]

The German official arrived here Monday.

Conveys Message to Velayati

LD282327 Tehran IRNA in English 1912 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 28, IRNA — Visiting Federal Republic of Germany's Foreign Ministry Advisor Reinhardt Schlagintweit met with Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Wednesday and presented him a written message from his German counterpart Hans-Dietrich Genscher concerning expansion of bilateral relations. Schlagintweit renewed Genscher's invitation to Velayati to visit West Germany.

In response, Velayati congratulated Genscher's re-appointment to his post and expressed thanks for the message. Velayati also referred to the existing issues in Tehran-Bonn relations and

called for a speedy solution to boost further cooperation between the two countries.

The FRG official arrived here on Monday.

DPA Ponders Visit's Link to Hostages

LD291327 Hamburg DPA in German 1141 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Excerpt] Bonn/Tehran, (DPA) [No date as received] — Reinhardt Schlagintweit, the Foreign Ministry Near and Middle Eastern representative, has been conducting political talks in Tehran for the past 4 days. [News of] Schlagintweit's trip leaked out in the Iranian capital on Thursday and was confirmed by the Foreign Ministry spokesman.

It became known on Wednesday that Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher had approached Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar-Hashemi-Rafsanjani more than a week ago with a request for help in liberating two Germans abducted in Lebanon. Rafsanjani so far had only answered the telexed request by the foreign minister — which also went in similar form to other political personages of the Arab world — in a public statement to a journalist, saying that he was able to do nothing even though he would willingly help the cause of good relations with the Federal Republic.

German Near East expert Schlagintweit arrived in Tehran as long ago as last Monday. As a spokesman emphasized when questioned, his journey had been agreed a long time ago. Confirmation of the diplomat's negotiation in the abduction affair could not be obtained. The Foreign Ministry stressed that Schlagintweit had flown to Tehran for talks on the "whole spectrum" of German-Iranian relations and of other current issues in the area. The diplomat is expected back in Bonn on Friday [passage omitted]

Lebanese Delegation Supports Peace Plan

LD291107 Tehran IRNA in English 1014 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 29, IRNA — The visiting Lebanese delegation, comprising Shi'ite and Sunni ulema called for the implementation of the Islamic Republic of Iran's peace plan to end the camps war in Lebanon.

Members of the delegation made the appeal in a meeting with the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Wednesday where prominent Judge of Sidon Sheikh Ahmad Zein [name as received] briefed Dr Velayati on the latest developments of Lebanon. The Iranian peace plan, he said, serves to contain and ultimately halt the spread of the camps war. The Lebanese people insist that the Iranian plan be implemented to put an end to the fratricide.

The Lebanese judge also condemned Husni Mubarak and other reactionary figures taking part in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Kuwait for their acts of desperation to uproot Islam and working contrary to the cause of regional peace. Sheikh Ahmad Zein added that Lebanese and Palestinians will

determine their own fate and that political bankrupt persons would be barred from any say so in the issue.

Shi'ite Alim Seyyed Abbas Musavi [name as received] also hailed the Iranian peace plan and said [words indistinct] exploit the fratricide.

Velayati in response said that the Islamic Republic has worked from day one to prevent the war from [words indistinct], he said. He further said that Iran has repeatedly announced where she stood on the camps war issue and "every one knows that the enemies of Islam are behind this war," Velayati said. Velayati called on all Palestinian and Lebanese people to preserve their vigilance and encounter plots hatched by the enemy.

Tehran on Perez De Cuellar Speech at ICO

LD290331 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1110 GMT 28 Jan 87

["The Comments of the UN Secretary General in Connection With the Imposed War — unattributed commentary]

[Text] Simultaneous with the important victories of the combatants of Islam in the course of the Karbala'-5 operations, the UN secretary general has said: The issue of who started the war should be assigned to a special committee. Perez de Cuellar, making these remarks as a guest speaker of the Kuwait summit, did not mention anything about details of such a committee, but said: Not identifying the side that started the Iran-Iraq war is the main cause of failure in finding a solution for its termination. He added: After 6 years of relentless war, it is futile to demand only its termination.

Informed political observers have referred to these remarks of De Cuellar as a step toward determining which warring side is responsible. They believe that he, following the repeated failure of his organization, has come to the conclusion that in front of the heads of the Islamic states and particularly in front of representatives of the Iraqi regime and its supporters, he should talk of identifying responsibilities.

On the other hand, Raja'i-Khorasani, permanent representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations, has emphasized that any solution and negotiation should take place after Saddam's overthrow. If diplomatic efforts are made to maintain Saddam in power, then the United Nations should not waste its time.

These stances have been adopted at a time when there is no doubt among international circles and public opinion as to who started the war. During formal and informal talks held on various occasions, with or without any connection to the war, all participants unanimously agree that the Iraqi regime started the war. This issue is mentioned here and there, implicitly or explicitly, in various world press. However, it has not been raised officially at the international diplomatic level. The reason that most countries have not raised this issue is either because they support Saddam's regime, due to the pressure exerted by the superpowers, or because of their own conservatism. In any case, it now seems that thanks to recent developments in the war that have destroyed a

huge part of the Iraqi forces, the need has been felt at the international level, maybe as a conspiracy, that the issue of who started the war should be raised. Whereas, if one was to study the issue realistically, this step can be regarded as a positive move.

One of the main demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran has always been to identify the aggressor who started the war. However, it must always be noted that this is not the only condition for ending the war. As the UN secretary general said: Just wishing for an end to the war without identifying the aggressor will not bring any benefit. In addition to that, we must add that even if it were to be admitted at the international level that Iraq was the aggressor, still it would not solve any problem. The president of Syria was also at the Kuwait summit. Referring to this point, he said: Before the war I tried to improve relations between Iran and Iraq, but I never received any favorable response from the Iraqi side. Prior to this, the French prime minister also pointed out that before starting the war, Saddam informed them of his intention to attack Iran.

In view of this evidence, to demand the formation of a multinational force to be deployed between the warring sides, or taking another step by identifying the aggressor, will not solve any problem. Rather, the main step lies in suggesting ways to punish the aggressor. The Islamic Republic has repeatedly stressed that at this point, the only solution is the removal of Saddam and the 'Aflaqi party ruling over Baghdad. Since by accepting anything less, if the aggressive clique were to remain in power in Iraq, conditions would not change — the enemy, after rearming himself, would resume its aggression by finding a baseless excuse.

In any case, identification of the aggressor, punishment of the aggressor — which means nothing except his removal — and payment of reparations of over \$300 billion are the main conditions for the success of any (?source?) which is truly seeking an end to the war. It is obvious that if these conditions were met it would be very easy to discuss the withdrawal of the forces to the international borders or the exchange of POW's. For in both cases, and particularly in the case of each other's territory, the Islamic Republic has often stressed that it has no intention of occupying Iraq. Nevertheless, the combatants of Islam have never waited to see whether the world or the international forums, which are controlled by the superpowers, would find a solution to the war. Rather, the combatants of Islam themselves kicked out the occupying Iraqi forces from a large part of our Islamic homeland; for reaching their other objectives, including the overthrow of the aggressive clique ruling Iraq, they make decisions themselves and have implemented them in practice.

The Karbala'-5 and Karbala'-6 operations are examples of this nation's latest determination to realize its demands. In view of the popular support for the revolution and the war, this imposed war will reach a conclusion sooner or later, thanks to the determination of the warriors of Islam and their military operations. However, in the international arena, Iran has always been prepared to study realistic proposals, albeit, sadly, no such proposal has been suggested yet.

Iraqi Kurds Warn ICO Against Iraqi Proposals

LD291048 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Sanandaj, Kordestan Prov., Jan 29, IRNA — Iraqi Kurdistan's Theologian Movement (IKTM) warned the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) on Wednesday not to ratify any Baghdad government proposed resolutions.

The statement accused the government [word indistinct] Husayn of being guilty of massive human rights violations, and noted that it was not worthy to represent the Muslim Iraqi nation at the OIC, because of the delegation's obvious lack of Islamic credibility.

OIC summitters, the statement said, should demonstrate to Islam and [words indistinct] regime of Saddam Husayn for invading the Islamic Republic of Iran. The OIC summit ought to adopt a clear stand on these issues, the statement said.

Participation of Egyptian, Jordanian, and Moroccan officials, whose treachery to Islam is well known, at the meet tarnishes the OIC's image, the statement termed.

Islamic nations are not obliged to respect resolutions ratified by the conference, specially if they fail to realistically reflect the aspirations of the entire Muslim world.

Border Trade Agreement Signed With Turkey

TA271335 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1100 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] It has been decided to allow border trade between Turkey and Iran through the Kapikoy and Esendere border checkpoints, in addition to the checkpoint in Gurbulak. The agreement on border trade was signed in the city of Orumiye in Iran's West Azarbayjan Province. Van Governor Ozdemir Hanoglu and the Azarbayjan governor general signed the agreement on behalf of Turkey and Iran.

Accordingly, border trade will be allowed at the Kapikoy checkpoint in Ozalp District in Van, and at the Esendere checkpoint in Yuksekova District in Hakkari until 23 April. Turkey will sell sugar, margarine, oil, paper, meat, and nylon bags. Oil, oil products, leather, wool, and salt will be bought from Iran.

Hanoglu said that the limits on exports will be kept secret, and efforts will be made to expand the volume of trade.

Velayati Condemns 'Silence' to Iraqi Bombings

LD281938 Tehran IRNA in English 1857 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 28, IRNA — Two thousand civilians have been martyred and 7,000 others wounded in the Iraqi air and missile attacks on residential areas of various Iranian cities over the past two weeks, said Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Wednesday.

The message said the grave consequences of the repeated Iraqi atrocities against Iran would not only rest with Iraq but also on certain international circles whose unjustified silence on such gross violations of international conventions has in fact encouraged the Baghdad government to escalate its criminal acts.

Reiterating the Islamic Republic's commitment in observing a UN-proposed agreement on January 12, 1984 which called on both Iraq and Iran to refrain from attacking civilian areas, the message urged the UN secretary-general to take immediate measures to deter Iraq from its brutal raids on Iranian residential areas.

The repeated crimes perpetrated by the Iraq regime are irrefutable evidence of its defiance of international conventions on one hand and of its inability to cope with Iran's Muslim forces at the warfronts on the other, the message said.

Elsewhere in his message, the foreign minister noted that the Islamic Republic has exercised utmost restraint in resorting to retaliatory measures against Iraq since the outbreak of the Iraqi-imposed war in 1980 and has only attacked Iraqi eco-industrial targets as the last deterrent alternative against enemy air raids on Iranian civilian areas.

Although the Islamic Republic announced on Tuesday that it would stop its reprisal attack on eco-industrial targets in Iraqi cities because of a lull in Iraqi air raids on Iranian residential areas during the previous 24 hours, Iraqi warplanes again resumed bombing of the holy city of Qom, Esfahan, Khomeyn, Pol-e Dokhtar and Arak Tuesday afternoon, martyring and wounding several civilians, the message said.

The message noted that Iraq continued its bombing of several Iranian cities even on Wednesday inflicting substantial casualties and losses.

KEYHAN Comments on War, Soviet 'Mistakes'
PM271515 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 18 Jan 87 P 18

[Editorial by Behruz Geranpayeh: "The Dawn of Victory for Iran and the Fear of the Revolution's Enemies"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The imposed war is not only a confrontation between Iran and Iraq but falls within the framework of world events. It is a confrontation between two ideologies and two sets of values. On one side there are the volunteer troops, symbols of a unified people who believe in the hereafter. [passage omitted]

On the other side there is not only Saddam, but reactionary Arabs, Zionism, Eastern and Western aggression, and all blasphemers who have lined up, whose views are limited to what they see in this world. But it is quite clear now and the world can see that Saddam's Qadisiyah army can no longer do anything and that the petrodollars of the Arab reactionaries will not have the desired effect. They can see that the Soviet weapons donated by the Soviet Union and Egypt are no longer a remedy for anything. They can see that foreign military advisors only add to the problems, that the spying AWACS are puzzled, and that the

information given by the United States does not give results. [passage omitted]

The imposed war is now reaching a crucial stage, and a decisive and final victory for Iran is certain. On the Iranian front, the issues and goals are clear. condemnation and punishment of the aggressor. This is a demand that is now equal to the removal of Saddam and the Ba'th Party. The Islamic Republic has never asked international organizations for anything else but the identification of the aggressor and his punishment and insisted on these principles from the start. From that time it became clear that neither the East nor the West nor Saddam's Arab supporters were willing to give in to Iran's logical demands. So, the Islamic Republic took it upon itself to carry out justice. Now the world has to find out that the masses can achieve their rights with Islam. It seems it is this crucial point that is the main cause of fear for those who wish to continue their control over the world's masses. [passage omitted]

Under the present circumstances the Soviet Union, which supports the leftist faction within Saddam's army, is hurriedly rushing toward its second strategic mistake with regard to the Iranian Islamic Revolution, despite some political delays.

With the military occupation of Afghanistan at a time when the Iranian people's anti-American struggles were at their height, the Soviet Union showed that it lacks any realistic understanding of the changes in the region. It only looks to the world's events from a position of profit-seeking. The Soviet Union's willingness to solve the problem of Afghanistan now is a sign of their policies' defeat at that time.

Now the Soviet leaders are preparing for another mistake. This mistake indicates the weakness in the eastern bloc's view of various matters. The least one can say is that the same confusion which has gripped the West in its positions toward the Islamic Republic of Iran also applies to the leaders of the Soviet Union.

If the capitalist world is incapable of placing any value on the masses' determination to gain independence, the Soviet Union, which portrays itself as a country which encourages Third World nations to gain independence, should have at least discovered this truth that the Iranian people, relying on their belief in a steadfast leader, will not bow down.

If the West was unable to understand the Islamic Revolution because of the series of events in Iran, the Soviet Union must have at least discovered that Iran has decided to defend its principles and that this people, this revolution, and this Islam have been able to show more power in order to gain victory.

It seems that the real reason behind the Soviet leadership's mistake is its lack of a realistic approach and constant turning toward profit-seeking thoughts. The Soviet Union cannot bear the presence alongside it of a more superior ideology and policy within regional and international developments. An Iranian victory in the war against the Iraqi regime will further impose this powerful presence. [passage omitted]

Continuing Operations, Karbala' 5, 6 Viewed

Iraqi Targets in Umm Qasr Shelled

LD281430 Tehran IRNA in English 1226 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov, Jan 28, IRNA — Economic, military, and industrial targets in the Iraqi port city of Umm Qasr were heavily shelled by long-range coastal artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Wednesday morning.

A helicopter landing site, a relay power station, oil storage tanks, strategic bridges, jetties of Iraqi naval forces, a railway station and a naval base in Umm Qasr suffered substantial losses in the Iranian artillery attack launched in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on residential areas in Iran.

'Thrust' Launched on Three Axes

LD290944 Tehran IRNA in English 0913 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala'-5 Operational Region, Jan 29, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran stormed the heart of Iraqi positions in the ongoing victorious Karbala'-5 operational region, achieving fresh gains, Wednesday night.

The Iranian thrust was launched in three axes, north and west of the Jasim River, and west of Fish Lake, inflicting heavy losses on Iraqi enemy. The Muslim combatants of Iran destroyed Iraqi troops in north of Jasim River and gained new positions in this area. In west of Jasim River, Muslim forces cleared palm groves of the area and advanced deep inside Iraqi positions.

The Iranian forces, in their attack launched in west of Fish Lake along the Dual Canal, killed or injured hundreds of Iraqi troops.

A large number of Iraqi forces were killed or injured during the Wednesday night thrust of Muslim forces and a group of them were captured.

3 Iraqi Brigades Suffer Losses

LD290941 Tehran IRNA in English 0925 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala'-5 Operational Region, Jan 29, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran inflicted heavy losses on three Iraqi brigades and two battalions in their thrust in Karbala'-5 operational region, Wednesday night, killing or injuring 2,000 Iraqi troops. A number of Iraqi forces were captured, 70 of whom have been transferred behind the war fronts, this brings to 2,553 the number of Iraqi POW's transferred behind the war fronts since the operations were launched on Jan 9.

The statement by Khatem ol-Anbiya' Joint Army and Revolution's Guards Corps Headquarters said that a hundred percent damage was inflicted on Armoured Brigade Two of Presidential Guards and Mechanized Brigade 24 of Division No 10, while Infantry Brigade 431 sustained 70 percent damage.

Two battalions of Brigade Five of the Presidential Guards which had been dispatched to the area after being re-organized, were totally smashed.

Fifty Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers were set ablaze during the Wednesday night operation.

2 Iraqi Aircraft Downed

LD281558 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 28, IRNA — Two Iraqi warplanes attempting to bomb Iranian positions southeast of Basra were shot down by anti-aircraft fire of Iran's Muslim forces in the Karbala'-5 operational theater in Shalamcheh region Wednesday. This brings to 67 the number of enemy jet fighters downed since the start of the Karbala'-5 operations early January 9.

Iraqi Planes Downed Total 68

LD281600 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala'-5 Operational Theater, Jan 28, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane was shot down in this war theater Wednesday afternoon bringing to 68 the number of enemy jet fighters downed since the beginning of the Karbala'-5 operations early January 9.

It was the fourth Iraqi jet fighter downed by anti-aircraft fire of Iran's Muslim forces in the Karbala'-5 operational theater Wednesday. A Sukhoi-22 and a mirage jet fighter are among the downed enemy planes. The Iraqi warplane attempted to bomb Iranian positions here before being shot down.

Sukhoi Downed; Figure Climbs to 69

LD290909 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hqs., Jan 29, IRNA — An Iraqi Sukhoi 22 fighter plane was downed in the Karbala'-5 operational theater Thursday morning, said a Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters statement.

The Iraqi plane was on a mission to bombard positions of the Muslim forces of Iran and was downed by the heavy fire of the Iranian air defence units. This brings the total number of Iraqi aircraft downed since the start of the operations on Jan 9, to 69.

Pilot of Downed Sukhoi Captured

LD291038 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala'-5 Operational Region, Jan 29, IRNA — Iraqi pilot of [a] Sukhoi 22 fighter which was shot down in Karbala'-5 operational region Thursday morning, was captured by Muslim combatants of Iran. The pilot, Basel Yahya Soleiman, a staff member of the 5th Squadron of Al-Nasiriyah air base of Iraq, escaped death by bailing out after his fighter was hit.

The plane [was] shot down Thursday morning bringing to 69 the

number of Iraqi planes downed in Karbala'-5 operational region.

Iraqi Warplanes Bomb Esfahan

LD290548 Tehran IRNA in English 0543 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 29, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas of Esfahan Wednesday night. Several civilians were wounded and a number of houses damaged.

Iraqi warplanes which intended to bomb the holy city of Qom were forced to flee by the heavy anti-aircraft fire, Wednesday night.

Meanwhile enemy warplanes tried to violate Tehran's airspace Wednesday night but they were also forced to flee.

IRGC Launches Retaliatory Attack

LD291031 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 29, IRNA — Economic and military installations of the Iraqi city of 'Ali al-Gharbi, Maysan Province, came under the long range artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps for several hours, Thursday. Heavy losses were inflicted on enemy installations in the shelling.

The shelling was in retaliation for recent Iraqi acts of mischief in attacking Iran's residential areas.

Gains 'Consolidated' in Karbala' 6

LD281942 Tehran IRNA in English 1917 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Jan 28, IRNA — More than 40 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded when the Muslim combatants of Iran shelled Iraqi positions in Karbala'-6 operational region over Tuesday night and Wednesday.

The Iranian Muslim combatants consolidated their gains in Karbala'-6 theater inflicting heavy casualties and damage on the enemy forces.

Meanwhile, eleven Iraqi soldiers were killed in Qasr-e Shirin region when the Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled an enemy patrol unit completely routing it in the process.

Khatem ol-Anbiya' Communique No 23

*LD291140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 29 Jan 87*

[Communique No 23 of the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, issued 29 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There is no might and no power except for Almighty God. O you selfless, heroic nation of Iran: The devotion of your zealous sons and their relentless battle on the front of monotheism have

amazed the world and have brought hope and light to the sad eyes of the meek and oppressed with repeated victories.

Last night the selfless Islamic combatants in continuation of the Karbala'-5 operations began their operations along three axes with the objective of destroying the war machine of the Zionist enemy and advancing in the region. The Islamic combatants launched an attack along the Dual Canal and west of Fish Lake, set on fire and destroyed a large part of the Zionist enemy's arms and equipment and killed or wounded a large number of its troops.

Along the axis west of the Jasim River our combatants in a direct clash with the Iraqi forces continued their mopping-up operations in the palm groves of this region and are advancing toward their predetermined objectives. The Islamic forces on the central axis, along the Shalamchah-Basra road in the vicinity of the Jasim River, by attacking positions of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces along this axis, continued their advance and have captured some new positions and are right now consolidating their positions in these areas.

During these operations the Islamic combatants succeeded in destroying by 70-100 percent the 2d Armored Brigade of the Iraqi Presidential Guards, the 431st Infantry Brigade, the 24th Mechanized Brigade of the 10th Division and two battalions from the 5th Brigade of the Presidential Guard which had been regrouped and redeployed to this sector. During these operations the intense fire of the Islamic combatants destroyed 50 enemy tanks and personnel carriers. With the killing or wounding of another 2,000 Iraqi troops the number of enemy's casualties in the Karbala'-5 operation has reached 44,700. During last night's operations 70 more Ba'thist troops were captured, bringing to 2,553 the total number of POW's taken behind the battlelines since the start of these operations. [passage omitted]

[Signed] The Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters

Joint Staff Communique No 2,730

LD281853 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 28 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 28, IRNA — Scores of civilians were martyred and wounded in Iraqi air raids on residential areas of Esfahan, Zanjan, Pol-e Dokhtar, Khomeyn, Eslamabad-e Gharb, Ilam, Khorramabad, Hamadan, Nahavand, and Malayer Tuesday and Wednesday, said a military communique here Wednesday. Communique Number 2,730 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that two more Iraqi jet fighters including one Sukhoi-22 were shot down by anti-aircraft fire of Iranian Muslim combatants in the Karbala'-5 operational theater in Shalamchah region at 07:30 and 11:20 GMT Wednesday. On Tuesday, another two Iraqi jet fighters had been shot down by Iranian surface-to-air fire in the Karbala'-5 operational theater.

Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed Iraqi positions and troop concentration sites in the Karbala'-5 operational theater twice Tuesday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions.

Iran's Muslim combatants suppressed a counter-offensive launched by an Iraqi armoured unit near Nahre-Jasim (Jasim River) and west of Fish Lake in the Karbala'-5 operational theater inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy and forcing enemy tanks to flee.

Military and economic targets in the Iraqi cities of Khormal, Halabjah, Doulsour [name as received], Mandali, Khanaqin, Badrah, Banmil, Zurbatiyah, and Naft Khaneh sustained considerable damage by heavy Iranian artillery fire which continued until 10:00 hours (06:30 GMT) Tuesday.

Iranian artillery fire prevented Iraqi troops from fortifying their positions in Faqqeh and Bejliyah, southern fronts, Tuesday setting afire three enemy vehicles.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the western fronts Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Naft-e Shah as a result of which parts of Iraqi positions were set ablaze and several enemy tanks and vehicles destroyed, the communique concluded.